

Privacy Notice – Scottish Training Survey

Why do we process this personal data?

NHS Education for Scotland (NES) will use this data to monitor the quality of your training. Responses are handled in confidence.

What personal data does the Scottish Training Survey (STS) use?

The response data from the STS will be held securely by NES. Only anonymised data will be used in the production of reports and for research. All responses made will be aggregated and shared with key training site stakeholders, such as your Director of Medical Education (DME).

All free text comments submitted in the survey should omit person identifiable data, and are available to all DMEs and associate DMEs in the health board where you work, via the STS Dashboard (which is accessed via a password) – so long as there are 3 or more responses from individuals in a department. This protection is applied to prevent the risk of indirect identification of individuals through small numbers.

However, if a free text comment is themed as patient safety or bullying / undermining / discrimination / sexual harassment related, then it is shared with the DME, even if there is only 1 response or 1 trainee in post. In the event that comments are deemed to require further investigation by the DME to assess the general impact of behaviours on the training environment, you will see that free and explicit consent for NES to share your contact details with them is sought in advance in the survey. If you do not consent to such sharing there is no personal impact on you of any kind.

For quality control purposes DMEs and associate DMEs may then share this information (comments only) with the unit, hospital and specialty in which you are based, to support local improvement work.

Whilst NES will work to prevent the risk of identification of trainees in such sharing, you should be aware that it may be possible in rare instances, if highly unlikely, for the DME, associate DME, to unintentionally identify you from a pattern of detail in a comment. It should be noted that any intentional efforts at such identification are against UK data protection law.

The data you supply may also be combined by NES for internal analysis with personal data collected through Oriel, in line with this, the Oriel and NES corporate privacy notices.

Legal Basis

The legal bases NES uses for processing your personal data are:

UK GDPR - Article 6(1) (e) - processing necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller.

Article 6(1)(c) - legal obligation: The processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject.

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Article 6(a) - consent: The data subject has given consent to the processing of his or her personal data for one or more specific purposes (sharing with DME).

The legal bases for processing any special category data are:

Article 9(2)(b) - employment, social security, and social protection Law: The processing is necessary for carrying out obligations and exercising specific rights of the controller or the data subject in the field of employment, social security, and social protection law, as authorized by domestic law.

Article 9(2)(j) - archiving, research, and statistics: The processing is necessary for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes, or statistical purposes, with appropriate safeguards in place.

Article 9(2)(a) - explicit consent: processing permitted if the data subject has given explicit consent to the processing of those personal data for one or more specified purposes (sharing with DME).

Data transfers outside the UK

All data is stored securely within the UK and/or the EU. Questback holds its data in Frankfurt, Germany. This is acceptable under the current legislative framework.

Automated Decision making

Individuals will not be subject to automated decision-making during this processing.

Retention

Data will be held for 10 years. All survey data held beyond this period is anonymised.

More information:

Information about your rights, how to make a complaint, and how to contact the NES Data Protection Officer can be found in the [NES Privacy Notice](#).

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